(e) the reasons for delay in this regard and by when the full Statehood is proposed to be accorded to Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) and (b) The decision in this regard is yet to be taken.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The grant of Statehood to Delhi has raised complicated issues which are yet to be resolved. No definite timeframe can be specified in this regard.

Need of knowledge professionals by 2010

729. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will rhe Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country would need 2.3 million knowledge professionals by 2010 as it could face a deficit of up to 0.5 million workers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government proposes to take to correct the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The approach to 11th Five year plan has assessed that while India's young demographic profile has the country favourably placed in terms of manpower availability, talent supply shortages are emerging. This is extremely disconcerting especially for the knowledge services sector, which over the last few years has emerged as a significant growth engine which demonstrated gains in terms of exports, employment and very visibly in urban development across several cities in the country. Research has shown that so far, only a tenth of the global addressable market for these services has been tapped. With its early lead and strong fundamentals such as demographics, economics and expertise, India is best positioned to take advantage of this opportunity. Yet the unsuitability of a large proportion of the talent pool in the country could lead to significant lost opportunities. THE NASSCOM-Mckinsey Report, 2005 Projections indicate that these will fall short by about 0.5 million suitable professionals by the end of the decade and in the absence of corrective action, this gap will continue to grow. However, if current trends are maintained, the IT and ITES sector will need an additional 1 million plus qualified people in the next 5 years. If the country is to capitalize on the huge opportunity in this and other areas of knowledge services, a major thrust is needed at all levels of education and skill development. Accordingly Government has decided to set up a National Skill Development Mission under which 1600 more ITIs and polytechnics, 10,000 vocational education schools and 50,000 skill development centres are planned proposed in Public Private Partnership mode in order to train 10 million persons per annum.

Employees not Remitting Provident Fund Contribution of their Employees

730. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many employees do not remit provident fund contribution of their employees and their matching contribution to EPFO;